December 12, 1958

BUSINESS STATISTICS

A WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT TO THE SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS

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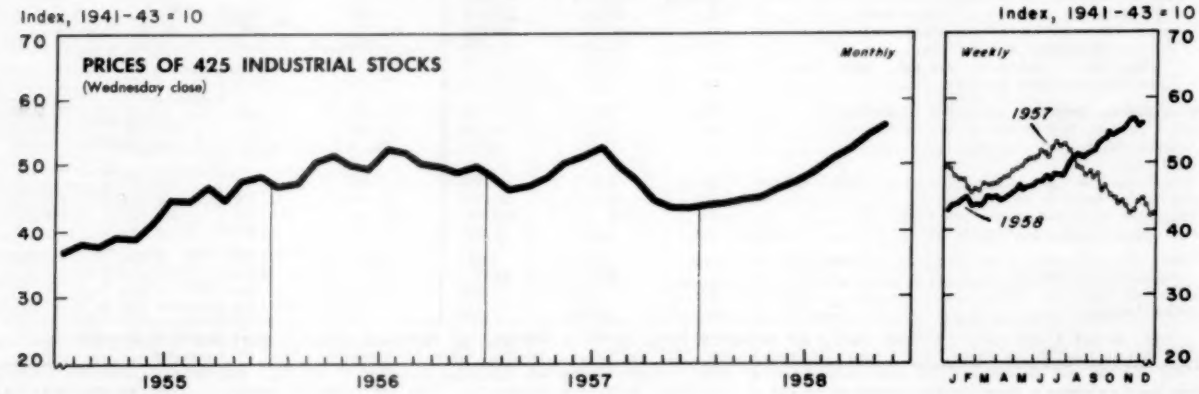
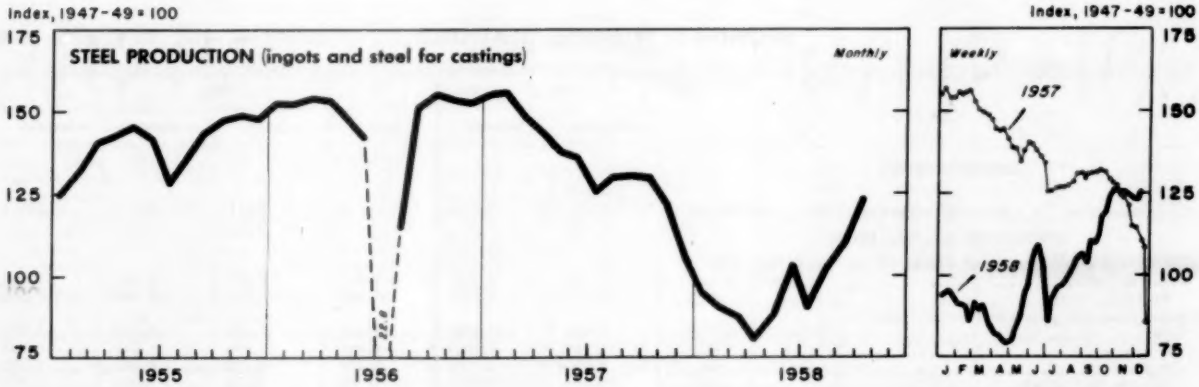
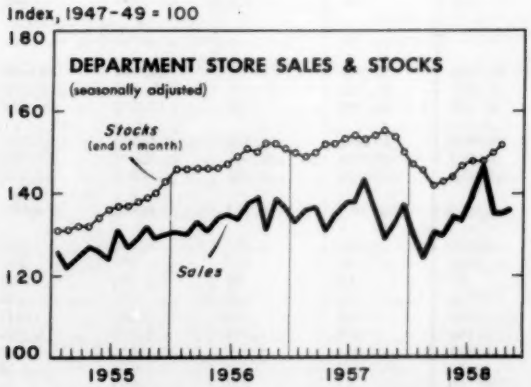
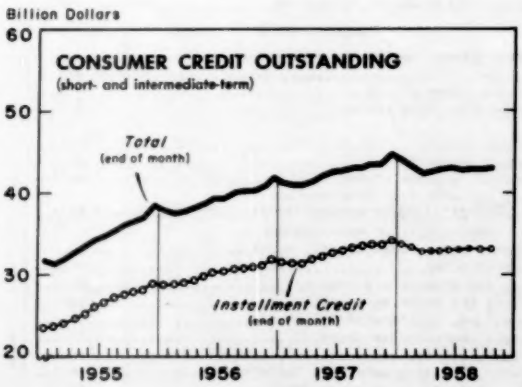
SELECTED BUSINESS INDICATORS









WEEKLY BUSINESS STATISTICS[1]

ITEM	1957		1958			
	Nov. 30	Dec. 7	Nov. 15	Nov. 22	Nov. 29	Dec. 6
Commodity prices, wholesale:						
All commodities.....1947-49=100..	.....	*118.1	119.2	119.1	119.1	119.0
Farm products.....do....	.....	*91.9	92.2	91.8	91.8	91.2
Foods, processed.....do....	.....	*106.5	109.7	108.8	108.6	108.4
All other.....do....	.....	*125.9	126.8	126.8	126.9	126.9
22 commodities 2/.....do....	84.4	84.5	**88.3	87.8	87.9	87.5
Department store sales.....do....	170	230	157	169	171	.....
Insured unemployment, total.....thous..	1,850	2,011	#1,950	#1,934	.....	.....
State programs.....do....	1,689	1,842	1,743	1,726	.....	.....
Failures, industrial and commercial.....number..	235	287	274	260	244	294
Finance:						
Currency in circulation 3/.....mil. of dol..	31,431	31,668	31,660	31,754	31,825	32,057
Federal Reserve bank credit outstanding, total 3/.....do....	25,325	25,387	27,100	27,087	27,399	27,844
Member bank reserve balances 3/.....do....	18,907	19,023	18,510	18,340	18,631	18,740
Excess reserves, estimated 3/.....do....	446	443	622	467	465	530
Reporting member banks (of F.R.System) in leading cities: 4/						
Demand deposits, adjusted.....mil. of dol..	55,464	55,389	56,874	56,846	57,283	.....
Time deposits, except U. S. Government.....do....	23,767	23,814	27,987	27,884	27,872	.....
Loans and investments (adjusted), total.....do....	86,072	86,858	93,710	93,777	95,212	.....
U. S. Government obligations.....do....	25,010	25,619	31,288	31,268	32,484	.....
Commercial, industrial, and agr. loans (gross)....do....	31,527	31,573	30,602	30,608	30,599	.....
Real-estate loans (gross).....do....	8,777	8,761	9,429	9,476	9,507	.....
Bond yields, domestic corporate (Moody's) 3/.....percent..	4.47	4.44	4.41	4.39	4.38	4.38
Stock prices, 500 stocks (Stand. & Poor's) 4/...1941-43=10..	41.25	41.54	53.05	53.20	51.90	52.53
Industrials, 425 stocks.....do....	44.41	44.71	56.74	56.84	55.39	56.06
Production:						
Bituminous coal 3/.....thous. of short tons..	1,637	1,538	1,467	1,488	1,508	.....
Electric power, by utilities.....mil. of kw.-hr..	11,613	12,315	12,378	12,579	12,274	.....
Passenger cars and trucks (Ward's).....number..	132,107	162,233	141,385	163,565	143,707	169,420
Petroleum (crude) and condensate 3/.....thous. of bbl..	6,830	6,850	6,968	6,975	6,983	.....
Steel 5/.....thous. of short tons..	1,846	1,831	2,011	2,000	1,988	1,985
Percent of capacity.....	##72.1	##71.5	74.5	74.1	73.7	73.5
Freight carloadings, total.....thous. of cars..	554	618	644	619	539	.....
Miscellaneous.....do....	284	314	327	320	285	.....

1/ Data do not always cover calendar weeks. 2/ Tuesday prices. 3/ Daily average. 4/ Wednesday data. 5/ Week beginning December 8, 1958: Production, 2,015 thous. short tons; operating rate, 74.7 percent. * Monthly index for November 1957. ** Wednesday price. # Excludes 416,000 and 394,000 insured unemployed reported under temporary programs (TUC) for November 15 and 22, respectively; includes claims under Ex-Serviceman's Unemployment Compensation Act of 1958 (UCX) effective October 27, 1958. ## Based on January 1, 1957, annual capacity (133,459,150 tons); not comparable with 1958 rates which are based on January 1, 1958, annual capacity (140,742,570 tons).

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS

ITEM	1957		1958			
	September	October	July	August	September	October
COMMODITY PRICES						
Retail price:						
All commodities (U.S.Dept. of Commerce index)..1935-39=100..	217.5	217.2	221.0	220.5	220.7	220.3
CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE						
Construction contracts in 48 States (F. W. Dodge Corp.):						
Total valuation.....mil. of dol..	2,550	2,614	3,607	3,467	3,216	3,309
Building, total.....do....	2,017	2,076	2,633	2,530	2,353	2,550
Highway concrete pavement contract awards: 1/						
Total.....thous. of sq. yd..	4,844	6,668	17,842	11,173	10,354	7,905
Airports.....do....	282	749	6,631	1,256	512	143
Roads.....do....	1,791	3,143	7,475	6,520	6,609	5,189
Streets and alleys.....do....	2,771	2,775	3,737	3,398	3,233	2,572
Construction cost index:						
Department of Commerce, composite.....1947-49=100..	138	138	139	139	139	140
DOMESTIC TRADE						
All retail stores, estimated inventories:						
Unadjusted, total.....mil. of dol..	24,270	24,500	23,500	23,510	r23,680	24,160
Durable-goods stores.....do....	10,690	10,380	10,720	10,430	r10,110	10,120
Nondurable-goods stores.....do....	13,580	14,120	12,780	13,080	r13,570	14,040
Adjusted, total.....do....	24,360	24,220	23,990	23,860	r23,680	23,470
Durable-goods stores.....do....	11,120	10,950	10,730	10,660	r10,480	10,260
Nondurable-goods stores.....do....	13,240	13,270	13,260	13,200	13,200	13,210
Retail firms with 4 or more stores:						
Estimated sales (unadjusted), total.....do....	3,942	4,236	4,045	4,277	4,128	4,533
Retail firms with 11 or more stores:						
Estimated sales (unadjusted), total.....do....	3,345	3,604	3,465	3,697	3,566	3,907
Apparel group.....do....	222	232	188	210	239	251
Drug and proprietary stores.....do....	82	87	89	92	90	93
Eating and drinking places.....do....	75	74	77	80	74	76
Furniture, homefurnishings stores.....do....	36	41	38	39	41	47
General-merchandise group.....do....	1,054	1,136	983	1,106	1,112	1,216
Grocery stores.....do....	1,356	1,478	1,531	1,608	1,461	1,648
Lumber, building-materials dealers.....do....	69	70	73	75	75	78
Tire, battery, accessory stores.....do....	62	68	81	79	69	76

r/ Revised. 1/ Data for October 1957 and July and September 1958 are for 5 weeks; other months, 4 weeks.

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ITEM	1957		1958			
	September	October	July	August	September	October
DOMESTIC TRADE - Continued						
Retail firms with 11 or more stores - Continued						
Estimated sales (seasonally adjusted), total...mil. of dol..	3,567	3,466	3,728	3,771	3,685	3,695
Apparel group.....do....	229	219	239	250	237	235
Drug and proprietary stores.....do....	87	87	91	97	94	94
Eating and drinking places.....do....	72	71	73	75	71	73
Furniture, homefurnishings stores.....do....	38	37	41	39	43	40
General-merchandise group.....do....	1,132	1,051	1,174	1,201	1,134	1,134
Grocery stores.....do....	1,472	1,472	1,564	1,557	1,555	1,570
Lumber, building-materials dealers.....do....	62	59	64	66	64	67
Tire, battery, accessory stores.....do....	68	67	73	75	73	74
Wholesale trade:						
Sales, estimated (unadjusted), total.....bil. of dol..	11.2	12.3	11.1	11.3	11.9	12.8
Durable-goods establishments.....do....	4.2	4.5	4.0	4.1	4.4	4.7
Nondurable-goods establishments.....do....	7.0	7.8	7.2	7.2	7.5	8.1
Inventories, estimated (unadjusted), total.....do....	12.8	12.9	11.7	11.7	11.7	11.9
Durable-goods establishments.....do....	6.7	6.6	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.1
Nondurable-goods establishments.....do....	6.1	6.3	5.5	5.6	5.6	5.8
EMPLOYMENT						
Labor turnover in manufacturing establishments:						
Accession rate.....monthly rate per 100 employees..	3.3	2.9	3.3	3.9	r4.0	3.3
Separation rate, total.....do....	4.4	4.0	3.2	3.5	r3.5	3.1
Discharge.....do....	.2	.2	.1	.2	.2	.2
Lay-off.....do....	1.8	2.3	2.0	1.9	r1.6	1.6
Quit.....do....	2.2	1.3	.9	1.2	1.5	1.1
Military and miscellaneous.....do....	.2	.2	.2	.2	.2	.2
FINANCE						
Consumer credit (short- and intermediate-term): 1/						
Total outstanding, end of month.....mil. of dol..	r43,159	r43,162	r42,923	r43,128	r43,144	43,164
Installment credit, total.....do....	r33,393	r33,484	r33,074	r33,165	r33,079	33,052
Installment credit extended and repaid:						
Unadjusted: Extended, total.....do....	r3,386	r3,547	r3,483	r3,385	r3,297	3,475
Repaid, total.....do....	3,276	3,456	r3,417	r3,294	r3,383	3,502
Adjusted: Extended, total.....do....	r3,542	r3,533	r3,330	r3,415	r3,324	3,450
Repaid, total.....do....	r3,398	r3,369	r3,367	r3,404	r3,377	3,419
Bonds:						
Average price of all listed bonds (N.Y.S.E.) 2/....dollars..	89.86	89.67	95.69	92.32	91.74	91.77
Domestic.....do....	90.08	89.89	95.89	92.47	91.90	91.92
Foreign.....do....	75.32	75.34	81.11	81.46	80.72	80.92
Sales, excluding U. S. Government bonds:						
Total on all registered exchanges:						
Market value.....thous. of dol..	73,222	112,849	121,140	120,651	122,594	161,393
Face value.....do....	84,634	130,206	126,294	127,385	126,495	156,838
On New York Stock Exchange:						
Market value.....do....	71,978	111,565	119,247	119,220	120,972	158,973
Face value.....do....	83,093	128,615	124,171	125,769	124,673	154,274
Value, issues listed on New York Stock Exchange:						
Market value, total, all issues.....mil. of dol..	98,481	99,015	116,425	110,165	107,711	108,045
Domestic.....do....	96,573	97,093	113,955	107,683	105,251	105,549
Foreign.....do....	1,253	1,276	1,425	1,462	1,448	1,461
Face value, total, all issues.....do....	109,591	110,426	121,673	119,336	117,407	117,734
Domestic.....do....	107,208	108,010	118,836	116,455	114,527	114,831
Foreign.....do....	1,664	1,693	1,756	1,795	1,794	1,805
Stocks:						
Sales (Securities and Exchange Commission):						
Total on all registered exchanges:						
Market value.....mil. of dol..	2,071	3,248	3,322	3,350	3,442	4,823
Shares sold.....thousands..	66,781	113,662	110,944	115,724	115,052	161,286
On New York Stock Exchange:						
Market value.....mil. of dol..	1,779	2,821	2,829	2,895	2,922	4,172
Shares sold.....thousands..	45,437	80,589	80,233	83,502	80,695	118,112
Shares listed, New York Stock Exchange:						
Market value, all listed shares.....mil. of dol..	205,705	196,675	234,507	237,509	248,388	255,117
Number of shares listed.....millions..	4,733	4,747	4,903	4,906	4,916	4,933
ELECTRIC POWER						
Electric power:						
Production, total.....mil. of kw.-hr..	58,335	60,297	61,327	63,280	60,689	62,416
Electric utilities.....do....	51,573	53,157	54,991	56,645	53,993	55,357
Industrial establishments.....do....	6,762	7,140	6,336	6,634	6,696	7,060
Sales to ultimate customers, total (Edison Electric Institute).....mil. of kw.-hr..	47,382	46,304	46,646	48,919	r49,215	.....
Commercial and industrial:						
Small light and power.....do....	8,680	7,969	8,915	9,494	r9,365	.....
Large light and power.....do....	23,845	24,120	22,261	23,375	r23,854	.....
Railways and railroads.....do....	315	326	284	293	289	.....
Residential or domestic.....do....	11,897	11,493	12,416	12,885	r12,943	.....
Rural (district rural rates).....do....	1,189	908	1,244	1,313	1,170	.....
Street and highway lighting.....do....	415	457	389	419	449	.....
Other public authorities.....do....	985	989	1,074	1,078	1,089	.....
Interdepartmental.....do....	56	42	63	61	56	.....
Revenue from sales to ultimate customers (Edison Electric Institute).....thous. of dol..	793,263	771,174	805,925	836,479	840,854	.....

r/ Revised. 1/ Revised beginning January 1957; revisions for months not shown will be published later. 2/ Includes bonds of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development not shown separately.

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ITEM	1957		1958			
	September	October	July	August	September	October
LUMBER AND MANUFACTURES						
Lumber (National Lumber Manufacturers Association):						
Production, total.....mil. of bd. ft..	2,861	2,996	2,716	2,999	3,084	3,241
Softwoods.....do....	2,344	2,490	2,236	2,477	2,541	2,721
Shipments, total.....do....	2,845	3,067	2,825	3,058	3,150	3,242
Softwoods.....do....	2,332	2,531	2,381	2,559	2,647	2,717
Stocks (gross), mill, end of month, total.....do....	9,600	9,530	9,098	9,038	8,971	9,000
Softwoods.....do....	5,816	5,776	5,599	5,516	5,409	5,443
METALS AND MANUFACTURES						
Castings, gray iron:						
Orders, unfilled, for sale.....thous. of short tons..	805	740	580	614	645	.....
Shipments, total.....do....	990	1,100	792	802	r917	.....
For sale.....do....	563	601	466	514	538	.....
Castings, malleable iron:						
Orders, unfilled, for sale.....short tons..	83,385	82,995	58,340	55,145	58,405	.....
Shipments, total.....do....	62,457	77,667	41,865	49,252	r56,836	.....
For sale.....do....	38,397	45,989	24,479	29,414	31,999	.....
Castings, steel:						
Shipments, total.....do....	139,002	146,397	68,802	80,886	r85,277	.....
For sale, total.....do....	105,611	113,216	48,618	59,816	64,586	.....
Railway specialties.....do....	29,718	31,477	5,400	8,021	9,205	.....
Steel products, net shipments:						
Total (all grades).....thous. of short tons..	6,172	6,551	4,082	4,835	5,386	6,225
Structural shapes (heavy), steel piling.....do....	597	641	295	349	352	399
Plates.....do....	778	764	321	398	394	461
Bars and tool steel, total.....do....	836	896	587	719	810	887
Pipe and tubing.....do....	860	889	513	567	561	625
Tin mill products.....do....	417	370	514	560	633	917
Sheets and strips (incl. electrical), total.....do....	2,011	2,319	1,484	1,744	2,102	2,338
Fabricated structural steel:						
Orders, new (net).....do....	221	181	331	226	256	259
Shipments.....do....	339	385	291	298	314	307
Backlog, end of month.....do....	3,521	3,322	2,220	2,119	2,047	1,913
RUBBER AND PRODUCTS						
Tires and tubes:						
Pneumatic casings:						
Production.....thousands..	8,641	9,708	7,288	7,762	8,277	.....
Shipments, total.....do....	7,723	8,154	9,573	7,848	7,912	.....
Original equipment.....do....	1,688	2,621	2,020	1,055	1,442	.....
Stocks, end of month.....do....	19,393	20,985	18,615	18,521	18,925	.....
Inner tubes:						
Production.....do....	3,365	3,764	2,890	3,305	3,390	.....
Shipments.....do....	3,483	3,172	3,466	3,331	3,498	.....
Stocks, end of month.....do....	6,174	6,909	7,680	7,664	7,657	.....
TEXTILE PRODUCTS						
Rayon and acetate:						
Production:						
Filament yarn.....mil. of lb..	53.9	59.1	52.0	53.6	56.4	57.3
Staple (incl. tow) 1/.....do....	38.9	40.9	26.5	26.7	28.1	30.9
Stocks, producers', end of month, total 1/.....do....	121.1	122.1	117.8	111.5	108.9	104.2
Filament yarn.....do....	68.8	69.6	66.0	61.3	60.6	59.1
Staple (incl. tow) 1/.....do....	52.3	52.5	51.8	50.2	48.3	45.1

r/ Revised. 1/ Data beginning May 1958 exclude figures for acetate staple plus tow; see note at the bottom of p. S-38 of the September 1958 SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS.

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WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT
SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS